Can ICER Put a Value on Diabetes Management?

A new report from the Institute for Clinical and Economic Review says oral semaglutide treatment for people with Type 2 diabetes isn’t cost effective. But the report undervalues several key factors.

**The value of adherence.**
A pill form of semaglutide could make disease management possible for patients who dislike needles. But ICER’s report doesn’t fully account for that benefit.

**The true cost of diabetes.**
ICER uses diabetes cost figures from 2012. But the past seven years have added significantly to the disease’s financial toll on the health system.

**Differences in patient responses.**
New treatment options can be life-changing for Type 2 diabetes patients who cannot control their disease with existing medications. The report doesn’t fully account for the value of better management and better health outcomes.

**Comorbidities.**
Type 2 diabetes patients often face additional conditions such as cardiovascular disease. Oral semaglutide can lower adverse cardiovascular outcomes for such patients, providing longer lives and lower health care costs. ICER’s report comes too soon to accurately estimate these benefits.

People living with Type 2 diabetes know that, when it comes to disease management, details matter. Why doesn’t the Institute for Clinical and Economic Review?